A car to be proud of

Toyota Corolla

What Car? Car Of The Year 2002

WHAT CAR?
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AWARDS 2002
CAR OF THE YEAR

What Car? Awards Issue 2002

Designed with the emphasis on style, space, cabin quality and improved driving dynamics, the Corolla has succeeded on every count.

The cabin is reminiscent of a German-born car.

It suppresses all manner of road blemishes with a ride of near-flawless quality.

Toyota deservedly carries away the award this year with a car that is almost impossible to fault in any area.

Those using their own money can sleep easy knowing their new Corolla returns more than 40mpg and Toyota has an enviable reputation for reliability.

Security kit is also plentiful.

Our new Small Hatch of the Year, however, has undergone a make-over Geri Halliwell would be proud of.

WINNER
Toyota Corolla 1.6 VVT-i T3 5dr
£12,795

What we were looking for The champion of champions. This is the car that, from our 18 winners, offers buyers the greatest advance in the past year and has shown itself to have no major weaknesses.

THE TOYOTA COROLLA – CAR OF THE Year. It might sound like a mickey-take, but this is a deserving champion. There have been eight previous Corollas, all of which have provided totally dependable personal transport, but no one in their right mind would have dared suggest that any one of them could be Britain's Car of the Year. A Corolla was a thing you bought to do a job: if you wanted style or flair you went elsewhere, quickly.

However, companies change. Ford went through the let's-do-things-differently angst in the early '90s and Toyota is in the middle of a similar process. The Yaris, RAV4 and Celica were a foretaste of what was to come: the new Corolla is the best mainstream car Toyota has ever made.

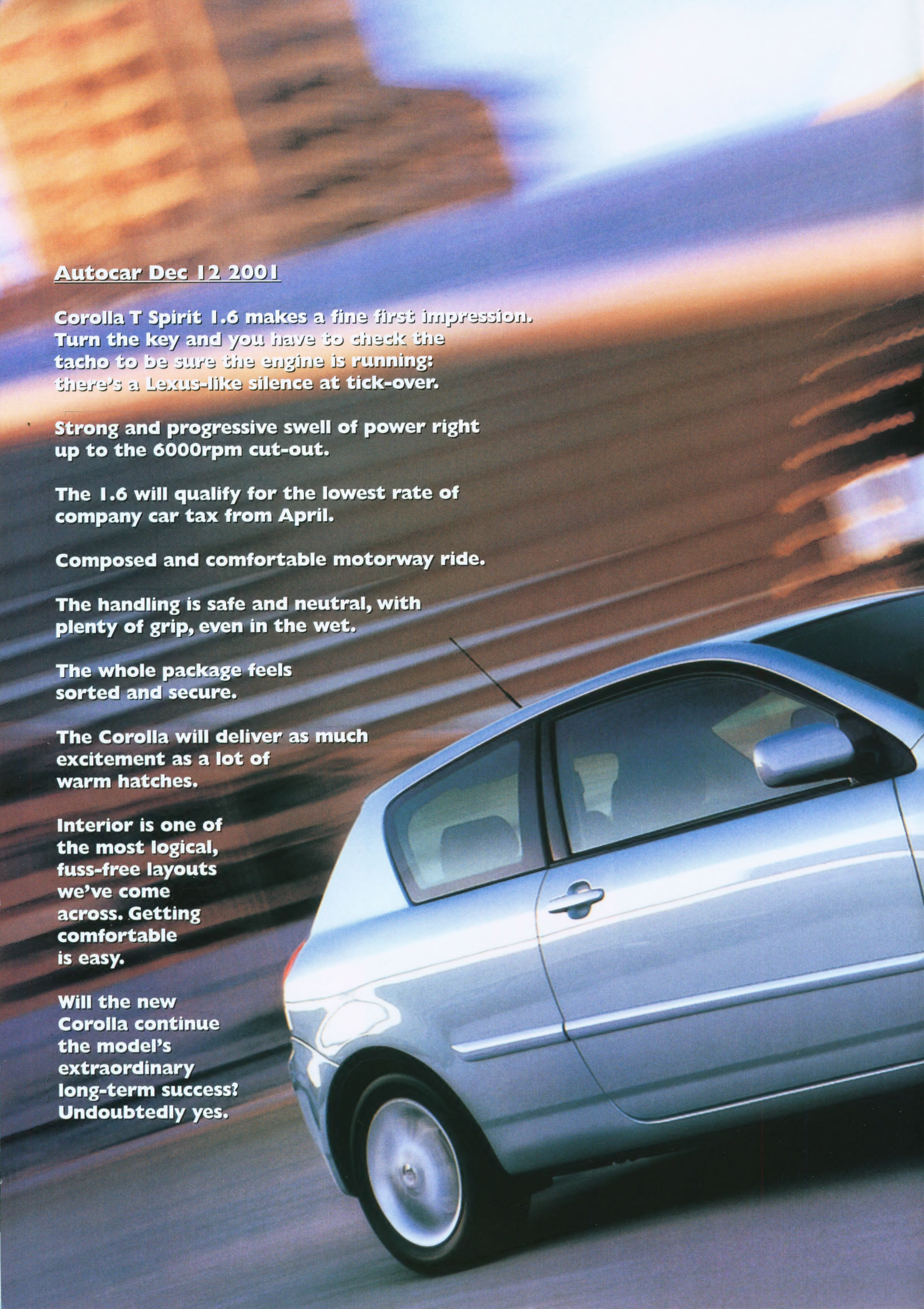
All those words we used to describe the old car – bland, cramped, dreary and uninvolving are just a few – have had to be expunged from the Dictionary of Toyota Adjectives. There's now real presence about the Corolla, with its pert little nose in the middle of the bonnet, its solid Audi-esque shape and its business-like rear.

'There are few areas where the Corolla is anything less than excellent'

The car's cabin is a revelation, too. Shiny, cheap-looking plastics and Dralon-like furnishings are out; a clean, soft-textured, almost Germanic air is in. It's also genuinely roomy, if by no means the biggest in its class.

The Volkswagen Golf gave Toyota something to aim for in terms of cabin quality, but the Ford Focus was clearly what the Japanese set out to replicate on the road. Previously derided as the car for people who don't like driving, the Corolla is now one of the most enjoyable of all small hatches, with an excellent chassis and some fine engines. Its more sporty demeanour puts no additional demands on people who still see a car as nothing more than personal transport, while appealing to drivers who would never previously have given a Corolla a moment's thought.

There are, in fact, few areas where it's anything short of excellent, and many where it is outstanding. It is easy to use, versatile and well equipped, and with Toyota's recent record on safety and security we'd be surprised if it did not come out very highly when it is crash-tested and its locks are attacked. The biggest difference now is that the Corolla is a car that people interested in cars will want and enjoy using. The Toyota Corolla – Car of the Year. You'd better believe it.



Autocar Dec 12 2001

Corolla T Spirit 1.6 makes a fine first impression. Turn the key and you have to check the tacho to be sure the engine is running: there's a Lexus-like silence at tick-over.

Strong and progressive swell of power right up to the 6000rpm cut-out.

The 1.6 will qualify for the lowest rate of company car tax from April.

Composed and comfortable motorway ride.

The handling is safe and neutral, with plenty of grip, even in the wet.

The whole package feels sorted and secure.

The Corolla will deliver as much excitement as a lot of warm hatches.

Interior is one of the most logical, fuss-free layouts we've come across. Getting comfortable is easy.

Will the new Corolla continue the model's extraordinary long-term success? Undoubtedly yes.

AN02 COR

What Car? Nov 01

A huge leap forward.

Vast improvements in interior space, driving dynamics, security and safety.

Corolla's cabin has taken huge steps forward in build quality.

The best small cars can't sleep easy.

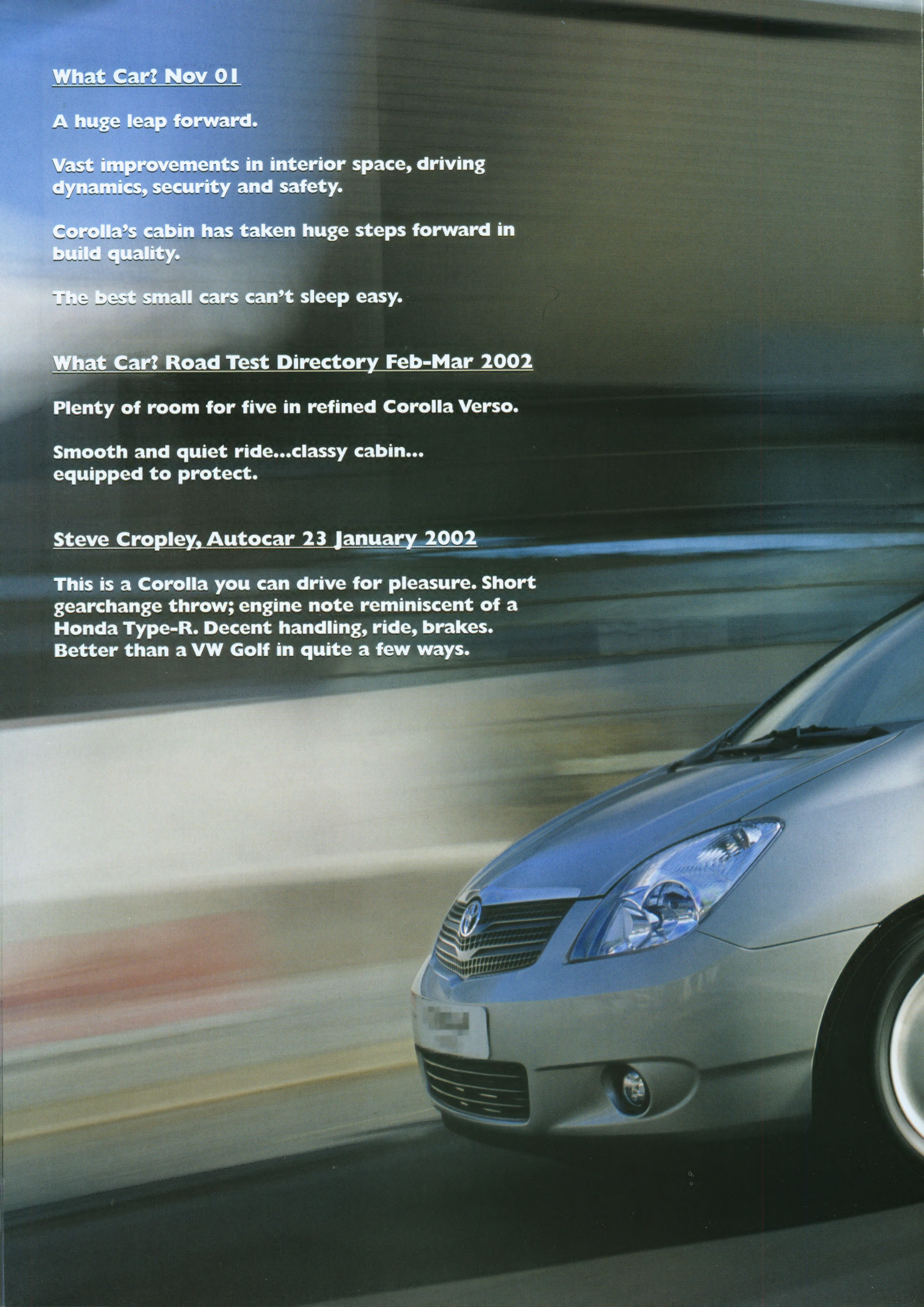
What Car? Road Test Directory Feb-Mar 2002

Plenty of room for five in refined Corolla Verso.

Smooth and quiet ride...classy cabin... equipped to protect.

Steve Cropley, Autocar 23 January 2002

This is a Corolla you can drive for pleasure. Short gearchange throw; engine note reminiscent of a Honda Type-R. Decent handling, ride, brakes. Better than a VW Golf in quite a few ways.



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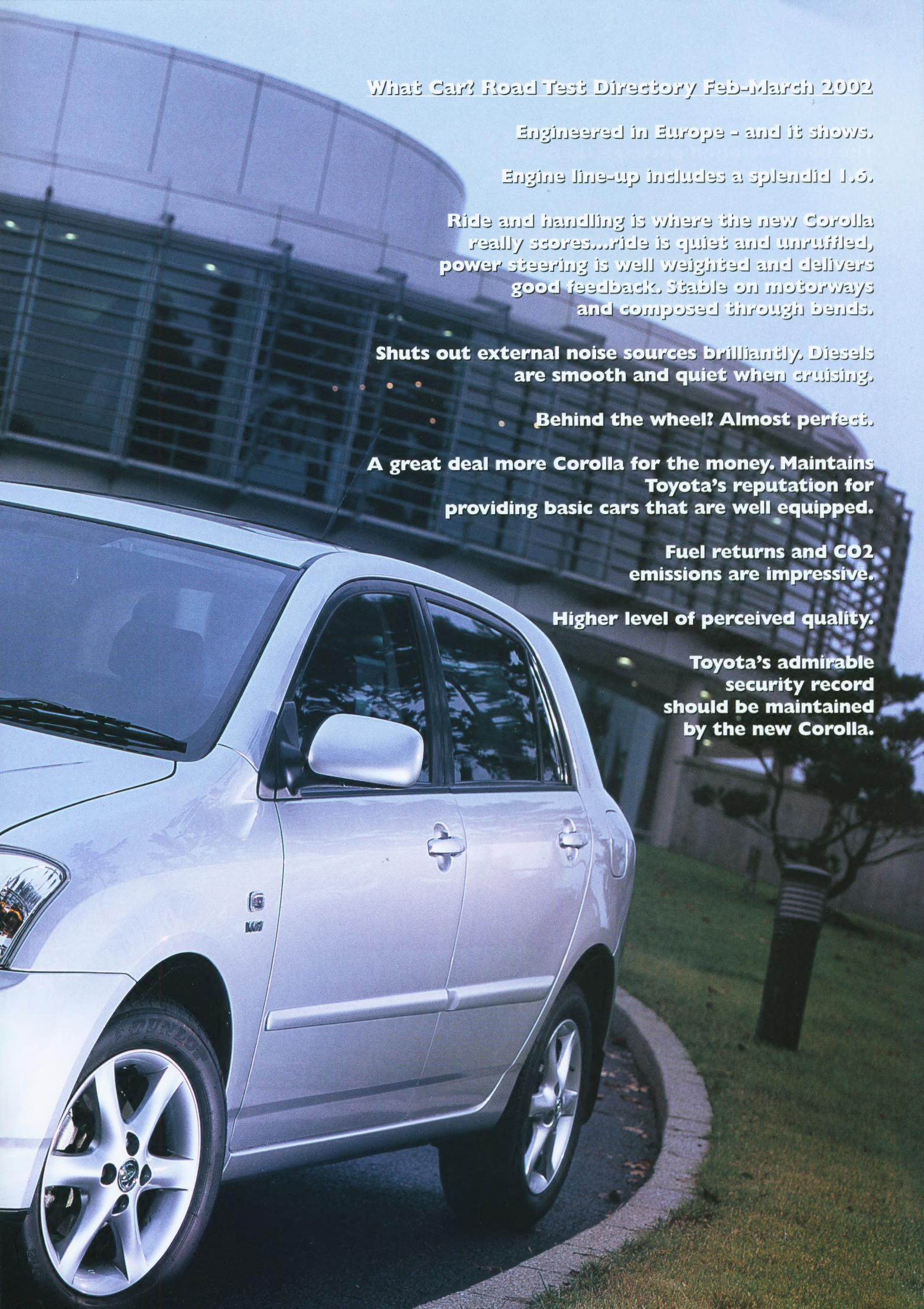
What Car? Road Test Directory Feb-March 2002
Engineered in Europe - and it shows.
Engine line-up includes a splendid 1.6.
Ride and handling is where the new Corolla really scores...ride is quiet and unruffled, power steering is well weighted and delivers good feedback. Stable on motorways and composed through bends.
Shuts out external noise sources brilliantly. Diesels are smooth and quiet when cruising.
Behind the wheel? Almost perfect.
A great deal more Corolla for the money. Maintains Toyota's reputation for providing basic cars that are well equipped.
Fuel returns and CO2 emissions are impressive.
Higher level of perceived quality.
Toyota's admirable security record should be maintained by the new Corolla.

Winner, Group Test What Car? Feb 2002.
vs Fiat Stilo, Ford Focus, Honda Civic.

The best all-round package there is.
Almost impossible to fault in all areas.

The new Corolla exhibits unshakable deportment and a nimbleness that you'll particularly appreciate.

It's as solid and taut as a vault.

The quality of the cabin is excellent.

The Toyota balances the ride and handling equation best.

Cargo bay has loads of room.

Main Entrance

Dealer Stamp

To contact Toyota direct,
call **0845 275 5555**
or visit **www.toyota.co.uk**

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